

The Athens Post.

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

ATHENS, TENNESSEE, FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1869.

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TERMS:

THE POST IS PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY, AT TWO DOLLARS A YEAR, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

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The Post.

Athens, Friday, Jan. 22, 1869.

Davis and Breckinridge.

In the Criminal Court of the District of Columbia on the 14th, District Attorney Carrington, by instruction of Attorney General Evans, entered a *nolle prosequi* in the cases of Jeff. Davis and John C. Breckinridge. This ends prosecution so far as these two gentlemen are concerned.

The Fourteenth Amendment.

Under the 14th amendment the removals from office in Georgia amount to a large number daily. The work of three weeks has cut off about one hundred heads. We are afraid Georgia will have to be born again before she can settle down in Federal harness.

From Washington.

In the Senate, Mr. Stewart, from the Judiciary Committee, reported favorably on the resolution for a constitutional amendment. It provides for the right of all citizens to vote and hold office. It shall not be abridged on account of race or color. Congress is empowered to enforce the above.

Poor Phillips.

The *Anti-Slavery Standard* says in a tone of mingled anger and sadness, that it has ceased to expect the present Congress "to impeach and depose Johnson." It thinks his removal from office ought even now at this eleventh hour to be accomplished, but it is hopeless that it will be.

Advertise.

If you want to buy a good bargain, always look to the papers and see who advertise. It is a good sign to see a man in business addressing the public through the columns of the Press. It denotes a business capacity, liberality and prosperity. Always hunt them up. It is meet that you should do so.

Louisiana.

The Lieut.-Governor of Louisiana, Dunn, was born in New Orleans, of free parents. He had been in business in that city many years, is well educated, speaks English perfectly, including every "th," has considerable property, is full black, over six feet high, and broad and stout in proportion. The Apollo Belvidere and Admiral Crichton of Radicalized Africanism.

A Novel Bill.

Mr. Thornburg, of Grainger, introduced a bill in the House of Representatives on the 14th "to restrain intemperance in the General Assembly, authorizing the Speaker to order the doorkeeper to take in charge and confine until sober any obstreperous member found in the hall of either house." The introduction of such a bill does not reflect any credit on the Legislature as a body.

The Tenure-of-Office.

The bill introduced in the Senate by Mr. Wilson, of Massachusetts, amending the tenure-of-office act, restores the President's control over the Cabinet, and allows the salary to *ad interim* officers. Great doubt is expressed at Washington whether the Senate will go with the House in the entire repeal of the bill. A good many of the members express doubts about the new President proving much more tractable than the outgoing one.

Going Back on Them.

The Boston *Journal* has found the following about its ancestors in an old book printed in 1699:

"The inhabitants seem very religious, showing many outward and visible signs of an inward and spiritual grace. But, though they wear in their faces the countenance of doves, you will find them in their dealings as subtle as serpents. Interest is their faith, money their god, and large possessions the only heaven they covet."

The New York *World's* Washington correspondent counts up twenty-eight Senators in favor of the repeal of the civil tenure bill, and thirty-nine who are opposed to it.

The Legislature.

In the House, on the 13th, a bill was introduced by Mr. Singletary—

To indemnify loyal citizens for fifty per cent. of the losses sustained during the war through Confederate depredations. It provides for a tax of one per cent. on all property in the State.

The bill passed a first reading—in stead of having been ordered under the table.

Mr. Woodcock offered "a resolution to the effect that no more bonds shall be issued to railroads that have not paid their January interest, until a full settlement shall have been effected with such roads."

After some debate, the resolution was adopted—ayes, 40; noes, 26. Among those who spoke against it was Mynatt, of Knox, whose lofty is of that enlarged and comprehensive character which enables him to advocate every measure calculated to increase the burdens of the tax-payer and to oppose any thing that looks like economy and retrenchment. The people of old Knox would do well to leave Mr. Mynatt to retirement and repose when they come to make up their next legislative ticket.

Representative Bloom, of McMinn, and Joint Representative Griffith, of Meigs, both voted for the resolution. The name of Mr. Blackman, of Monroe, appears among the noes.

The following appears among the proceedings at the afternoon session:

The resolution extending suffrage to females was taken up, and, after some discussion, Mr. McKinley proposed a resolution in lieu that no proposition looking to the extension of suffrage shall be entertained which does not include women. Both it and the original resolution were tabled.

The following resolution was also adopted in the House:

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That the Governor be requested to send to Columbia a sufficient number of militia to investigate the matter, and ascertain what has become of Mr. Barmore, who was taken from the train at or near the town of Columbia, by the Kuklux, on Monday night last.

Taxation—Immigration.

The Athens *Republican* of last week has a well-considered article in opposition to any further increase of the State's liabilities at present in behalf of railroads. We quote the closing paragraph—as follows:

There is a great effort being made to induce immigration to the State. What encouragement can people have to come and buy our lands and settle among us, unless the tax upon lands are materially diminished? Would it be wise in immigrants to come and buy land and attempt to make a living, when they would have to pay all they could earn in the way of taxation to build railroads? If we ever expect to see the day come when men will be induced to immigrate to our State, settle up, and commence to develop its resources, we must set about removing the hindering cause; and that is the overbearing and ever-increasing taxation.

South Carolina.

The Charleston *News* points, with just pride to the peaceful condition of South Carolina. Says that paper:—"South Carolina, the so-called 'cradle of the rebellion,' is, on this New Year's Day, 1869, the most peaceful and serene of all the Southern States. We have a colored population of 400,000, and a white population of 275,000 or less; but order and quiet reign within our borders, and no such thing as widespread riot or tumult has been known in this State. It is not that we have been free from the exciting causes of trouble and disaffection. Political firebrands and itinerant thieves have been as plentiful as in any other part of the South; but white men and colored men labor soberly side by side, and the business of the whole State is in a healthy and thriving condition."

Fight at Wytheville.

Quite a general fight occurred in Wytheville, Va., on last Thursday, at S. S. Crockett's Hotel, between the Bureau officers stationed there and citizens of town and country. Some provocation was given, taken by the officers as disrespectful, and, in attempting to resent it created, in old parlance, "a free fight," resulting in bruised heads and burnt bodies. After the Bureau was badly mashed up, the landlord, in attempting to put the boys out of his house, was taken through in real pugilistic style.

Eloquent and Emphatic.

"My son," said the veteran at the foot of the stairs, "arise, and see the newly-risen luminary of day, and hear the sweet birds singing their matin song of praise to their great Creator; come while the dew is on the grass and tender lambs are bleating on the hillside—come, I say, or I'll be up there with a switch and give you the cussedest licking that you ever had!"

A Chicago preacher has been pointing out "The Way to Hell." A wicked contemporary adds: "Persons desiring a complete guide to Chicago should purchase the sermon."

Gen. Butler's Financial Ideas.

The New York journals criticize Gen. Butler's financial proposition as developed in his recent bill, but from different stand points, and with very different impressions of its timeliness or wisdom.

The World says:

"His plan is not without ingenuity and a certain sort of architectural symmetry, but it is built upon a ridiculously unstable foundation, and supported by sophistries (we cannot call them arguments) which could be generated only in the brain of a demagogue."

The Times says:

"Instead of confining his attention to the various schemes proposed for paying the public debt, and getting back to specie payments, he goes the 'whole hog,' and insists on never going back to specie again, inasmuch as specie is a 'relic of barbarism,' and the only currency—the only kind of money fit to be used by a free and enlightened people, is an 'inconvertible paper currency,' that is notes promising to pay specie but never intending to do so."

The Herald says:

"Altogether, Gen. Butler has taken a bold step in advance of the views of financiers and many of his colleagues in Congress. His speech will create a flutter among the bondholders, national banks, and capitalists, and will open the door for great discussion. However much his views may be questioned or opposed by the old school financiers and political economists, there is no doubt he has struck the chord of popular sentiment, and that he will be recognized as the leader in this new movement for an American system of currency and finances."

The Sun says:

"It is easy to see why Gen. Butler is so anxious to erase from our legal tender notes the words which express a promise to pay 'dollars.' So long as these words remain, they convict the nation of continual bankruptcy. If not flat repudiation. We promise to pay 'dollars' on demand, and we fail to do it. But how much better shall we be with our new 'certificates of value'! What is the 'value' of a piece of paper with the words 'one dollar' on it, if there is no implied exchangeability in it for a dollar in specie?"

The whole bill is a financial monstrosity, and ought never to be reported back by the Committee to which it has been referred."

The Tribune says:

"We have no superstitious devotion to Gold and Silver, even as a basis of Currency. What we insist on is Good Faith. Don't promise to pay dollars, and then refuse to pay them; never say one thing and do the exact opposite. General Butler practically concurs in this view, in proposing to replace our present Greenbacks and National Bank notes by a Currency avowedly irredeemable in Coin. He practically admits that we cannot stand where we are, but must stop living on lies. We thank him for so much, as well as for his showing that the Morton plan of redeeming in the future, by hoarding means, several millions of coin, is utterly impracticable. If he has done little toward building the required edifice, he has carried off a good many loads of rubbish from the spot on which its foundations must rest."

More Franchising.

The following was introduced in the State Senate last week by Mr. McCall: An act proposing amendments to that portion of the Constitution referring to the limitation of the elective franchise. The amendments to be as follows:

SECTION 1. Every man of the age of twenty-one years, being a citizen of the United States, and being a citizen of the county wherein he may offer his vote, six months next preceding the day of election, shall be entitled to a vote for members of the General Assembly, and other civil officers for the county, or district in which he resides.

Sec. 2. No law shall be passed excluding from the right of suffrage, or from the right of serving on juries, or from the right of holding office, any person on account of their race or color or previous condition.

Sec. 3. The General Assembly shall have no power under the third section of the eleventh article of the Constitution to propose any amendments thereto, excluding from the right of suffrage or from the right of serving on juries or from the right of holding office, any persons on account of their race or color, or previous condition.

Sec. 4. Laws may be passed excluding from the right of suffrage persons who may be convicted of infamous crimes.

Sec. 5. Electors shall, in all cases, except treason, felony or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest or summons, during their attendance at elections, and in going to and returning from them.

Sec. 6. In all elections to be made by the General Assembly, the members thereof shall vote *in person*, and their vote shall be entered on the journals. All other elections shall be by ballot.

The bill passed its first reading and was referred to the Committee on Constitutions.

Coffee's Ideas of Debt and Credit.

A newspaper clerk in Louisville some time ago sold fifty papers to a negro, who promised faithfully to pay for them, very soon. The other day the clerk encountered and dunned him:

"Look here, you freedman; when are you going to pay for those papers?"

"Don't trouble me, boy; don't trouble me," replied Coffee, assuming an air of business, and at the same time getting out of the way, "I's taken *vide de bank*—no use to say nothin more on dat subject."

"The Movement in Tennessee."

The Louisville *Courier-Journal* has a leading article about the political or party prospects in Tennessee. The writer is somewhat at fault in some of his conclusions, but not altogether wrong. He alludes to the dissensions in the ranks of the radical party, and to the course of Secretary Fletcher and Mr. Speaker Richards; and continues as follows:

"The alienation of the Governor from the Secretary of State did not affect the position of the latter in the Radical party. Fletcher was a genuine Republican at bottom, and as he monopolized the brains of the concern, it could not do without him. He has courage, enterprise and sagacity; is as daring as Andy Johnson, and as good-natured as Emerson Etheridge; and he aspires, first, to be the next Governor of the State, and thence, to be transferred to the United States Senate in place of Brownlow, who can hardly last another year."

Richards is a New England man, but he has resided in Memphis for many years. He is intelligent, active and ambitious; has distinct ideas of his own upon society and politics; and wants to become the foremost Republican in his section of the State.

The gentlemen who follow Fletcher and Richards are not the most conservative, but the most intelligent members of the Legislature, who conceive the possibilities of the situation and look to improve it in season. Those who oppose them are merely the cob-webs which have collected about the Brownlow machine; ignorant men who were put in the Legislature by machine work; manufactured to order in fact. They will never be heard of when the work of reaction sets in positively; for their combined intelligence would not make up a decent average.

The Radical Tennessee Congressmen at Washington—Maynard, Stokes, Arnett, Trimble, Mullins—all voted against the repeal of the tenure-of-office act.

The meaning of all this is a split. Grant will not go the ultra Radical path. Radicalism in Tennessee cannot stand without it. Hence the ultra Radical leaders are preparing to make a fight in their last ditch; and, as Fletcher, Richards & Company think it cannot be maintained, they propose in advance a compromise, "all hands round, and on this proposition parties will shape themselves during the spring. It will be a contest between Radicals and publicans. The disfranchised will have nothing to do with it; and its result will be the complete overthrow of the Kuklux-Brownlow ring and the ascendancy of the first liberal, but anti-Democratic organization in the South. Stokes will relapse into his place as a second-rate, up-country politician. Maynard will be ousted from a seat which he has held by a sort of sufferance. Trimble, who is as crazy as a bed-bug, will sink back into an arm-chair, from which he ought never to have emerged. Mullins will take to shoeing horses once more. A new order of men will rise into prominence; and of these Fletcher, the Secretary of State, will be the chief.

Radicalism, being a thing of darkness, cannot last. Republicanism, being at least a thing of progress, will succeed it. Thence the advance to pure Democracy, as conceived by the founders of the government, will be only a question of time.

More of the New President.

The following is our latest dispatch from Gen. Grant:

The people expect me to save them from this wholesale robbery by officials. They expect me to see the laws executed and the revenues faithfully collected. So help me God, I will do it or resign. An executive officer who is satisfied of his inability to execute the law is unworthy the respect of his fellow-citizens if he continues to hold on to the office. Neither do I believe that the officers of the government were to be used for the placing or retaining in power Senators or members of Congress. I shall never recognize the so-called right to the patronage of their districts, so often asserted by these gentlemen.

That's Grant's last utterance, and sounds very much like he had made up his mind to boss the machine himself after the 4th of March.

High Heeled Shoes.

The *Scientific American* tells its readers, what every physician and student of physiology knows about the silliness and harmfulness of wearing high heel-heeled shoes. When the heel is raised, as is the prevalent custom, the bones of the thigh, pelvis and leg, as well as the foot are thrown into abnormal positions; and while the bones maintain their plasticity, the effect of such unnatural tension is sure to be perpetuated in the shape of crooked shins, bandy legs, elephantine toe-joints, and a cramped, ungraceful gait.

Fatal Explosion.

The steamer *Glide* exploded her boilers fifty miles above New Orleans last week, and subsequently taking fire was totally destroyed. The number of lives thus far reported lost is ten, and about twenty-five others were scalded so dangerously that most will die.

We see it stated that if places infested by mice, be plentifully treated, particularly their holes, with Scotch snuff, they will be off like a shot. We have never tried it ourself, but we hope it is true, as it will be putting the snuff to at least one good purpose.

The Twitchell Murder.

The Philadelphia *Ledger* has the following in regard to the Twitchell Murder:

The verdict of murder in the first degree against George B. Twitchell, Jr., has the approval of the entire community. The victim was a feeble old woman; she was lying asleep in the security of her own home, with no one in the house but her own daughter and that daughter's husband, on both of whom she had showered kindnesses of every kind. This feeble old woman was murdered, and all the circumstances pointed out her son-in-law so clearly and conclusively as the immediate agent in the murder as to leave no doubt of his guilt on any unbiased mind. The trial turned on the blood-sprinkled shirt. Twitchell's counsel might have been able to account for the blood on the garments which he had on his person when he helped to carry the murdered body of his mother-in-law into the house, but the sprinkles on his shirt, which he did not have on at that time, could not be so explained away. The spots on the wall, the gas-fixture, the table top, the sofa showed that the blood had been thrown in spurts or sprinkles, either from the ruptured arteries of the murdered woman or from the brandishing of the murderous poker; and showed also, from their position, that the murderer himself must have received some of the sprinkles on his person. Whoever stood there at the head of that sofa must have been spotted by that deadly shower, and Twitchell was so spotted on all his garments, including the shirt which he did not have on when he helped to carry the body into the house."

Brevities

A Minnesota farmer says: "We raise four hundred bushels of potatoes to the acre here, which would be a big thing if we didn't also raise bugs enough to eat 'em all up."

An exchange says Jubal Early will take advantage of President Johnson's amnesty proclamation and return home, singing, "The year of Jubal E. has come; return, ye wandering sinner, home."

A Michigan farmer's sheep having mysteriously disappeared recently, he placed a wolf trap in the field. A few days afterward he found it sprung, and now one of his neighbors is laid up with a sprained ankle.

No one need fear getting out of the road on a dark night if he unchokes his horse and permits him to pick his way. His scent is infallible. During the war this was made apparent to a great many unfortunates, who found themselves mounted and floundering about in strange localities after sunset.

One of the most consistent and influential of the Republican members of the United States Senate, writes: "The current is rapidly setting towards a general removal of political disabilities, and the result will undoubtedly ensue in another session."

A recent storm in Belgium was distinguished by some singular phenomena. The wind carried off several articles of the first necessity. For instance, the roof of a house and a lawyer's wife have totally disappeared. It is possible that the roof may have been found; but as for the lady, who was a light weight, her husband has given up all hopes of her recovery.

A South Carolina editor who confesses himself a bachelor, congratulates his brethren of the celibate state on the close of leap year and their escape from the peculiar danger which threatens such wretches during that period.

Two Northern States, Iowa and Minnesota, have voted for negro suffrage. The number of negroes, men, woman and children, in these two States, according to the last census, was, in Minnesota 67, in Iowa 135.

There is a man in Chicago who places a cap on his head and lets Capt. Travis put a pistol ball through it at twelve paces, the bullet going within an inch of his skull.

Corn and Pork.

From carefully conducted experiments by different persons, it has been ascertained that one bushel of corn will make a little over 10½ pounds of pork gross. Taking this result as a basis, the following deductions are made, which all farmers would do well to lay by for a convenient reference—thus:

When corn sells for 12½ cents per bushel, pork costs 11½ cents per pound.
When corn costs 17 cents per bushel, pork costs 2 cents per pound.
When corn costs 25 cents per bushel, pork costs 3 cents per pound.
When corn costs 33 cents per bushel, pork costs 4 cents per pound.
When corn costs 45 cents per bushel, pork costs 5 cents per pound.

The following statement shows what the farmer realizes in corn, when sold in the form of pork:

When pork sells for 3 cents per pound, it brings 25 cents per bushel in corn.
When pork sells for 4 cents per pound, it brings 33 cents per bushel in corn.
When pork sells for 5 cents per pound, it brings 45 cents per bushels in corn.

Mexico—More Trouble.

A dispatch from Madrid, semi-official, dated the 14th says:

One of Maximilian's Mexican Guards is here, secretly engaging Spanish scientific and military officers for a movement to place Count Girzenti on the Mexican throne. He wants two hundred officers of high rank; their pay secured. Several members of the government assist the enterprise secretly.

Gen. Prim grants officers who desire to join the expedition unlimited leave of absence. It is said that the Emperor Napoleon favors the project.

Interesting from Florida.

We have been handed a long letter, dated from STARK, Florida, with a request that we would publish such portions of it in the Post as we might deem of interest to its readers. The letter was written by Mr. G. M. McCULLY, who recently emigrated, in company with a number of others, from McMinn county to the country from whence he writes. We make such extracts as we can find room for. After announcing the safe arrival of the party at Fernandina, and saying something in regard to that locality, the letter continues:

I made several tours over different parts of the island; found the land generally unfit for cultivation, the surface being principally soil of poorest quality, and in some places covered to the depth of ten or twelve inches with oyster-shells. After staying at the city ten days, Weir, Lafferty and myself started for the main land, to take a look at the country and seek a location, intending to take the cars running from Fernandina to Cedar Keys. But before we reached the depot the train had left, and we continued on foot to the second station, 27 miles. The country along the railroad has the appearance of being very poor. There is scarcely any houses or fields for miles.

I suppose you would like to know what I think of this portion of Florida where we are now. All of the lands here are pine lands, and all look poor to a Tennesseean; but when you see the immense yield of sugar, syrup, potatoes, and all garden vegetables, you would somewhat change your opinion. On good pine lands which have been cowed-popped awhile, they make per acre from 12 to 14 forty-gallon barrels of first rate syrup, or from 8 to 12 barrels of good sugar, or from 150 to 350 bushels of sweet potatoes, or from 100 to 150 lbs. of long staple cotton, which is worth this year from sixty cents to one dollar per pound. Although garden vegetables grow here to perfection, and the advantage of the cars running daily to Fernandina, Jacksonville and Savannah, and the regular line of steamers to New York and other large cities; the people having all these facilities do not seem to appreciate them, but continue in the same old routine and do as daddy did, not aspiring higher than some patches of potatoes, cane and a few acres of cotton and corn; leaving their cattle and hogs to take care of themselves winter and summer. The result is, they live hard, make but little; many have worthless stock of hogs, and are generally out of milk and butter. It is not uncommon to see men who own from one hundred and fifty to a thousand head of cattle who cannot give you a glass of milk. Ask them why it is so, and they will tell you that the milk and butter will not pay for the feed and trouble. The fact is, they have never tried it, but are doing "as daddy did."

A regular old pioneer, Indian-hunter, Floridian is about as hardy an animal as you generally meet up with. I think such an one can live, thrive and do well in the water from one-fourth to one-half his time; will look on you with suspicion and if you wish to purchase anything of him will ask about two prices. But you must not think that I include all in this class. Far from it, I have found and made the acquaintance of some who are of a different cast altogether. There are a few men living here whom, if you should meet, you would not suppose were scarcely worth anything, but who are really worth from seventy-five to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in money and other property. Indeed, most of such as have been living here a few years and who have used proper economy and industry, have succeeded in making property. The morals of the people here are not such as I would like. There is one Church-house here (at Stark) open to all denominations. We also have a Union Sabbath School, which is pretty well attended.

There are a great many lands here which are not taken up. In the first place, the General Government owns lands in this State which it proposes to give as homesteads to actual settlers; and the State of Florida owns lands which can be had cheap. The Fernandina and Cedar Keys Railroad Company had each alternate section for six miles on each side of the road donated to them, which they give to emigrants who settle on and cultivate these lands. They give it in lots of 40 acres and upwards, owing to its nearness to the road; say 40 acres next to the road, 80 next, and so increasing as you settle further back up to 160 acres. The richest looking lands I have seen here are considered worthless by most of the citizens, though I am of opinion that they will at no distant day be the most valuable in this part of the State. The lands here alluded to are those situated near the lakes, which you find scattered over this country. These lakes are generally from one half to two miles wide and from three to ten miles long. The water in them is of considerable depth and perfectly clear, with a good supply of fish of different kinds.

Oranges, peaches, figs, and in fact almost all fruits do well here, the leaves of the orange trees are now perfectly green, with the rich fruit still hanging on, though it is the middle of December. This is given up to be the most healthy portion of the State.

I would not use undue persuasion to any one to come to Florida, lest they should be disappointed, but can say for myself that I do not regret coming here yet, and think, if we have health we can make a good living. J. M. McC.

The letter contains other items of interest, which want of space compels us to omit.

A West Virginian whipped his wife the other day for extravagance in eating both butter and molasses on her bread.